



3617

PATENT

#8  
11/9/03

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshiaki Takahashi et al.

Serial No.: 09/822,942

Art Unit: 3617

Filed: March 30, 2001

Title: FRICTION REDUCING SHIP AND METHOD FOR REDUCING  
FRICTIONAL RESISTANCE

Examiner: Sherman D. Basinger

Docket No.: 33463

**RESPONSE AND ELECTION**  
**(In response to Paper No. 7)**

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DEC 31 2002  
**GROUP 3600**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Office action dated November 19, 2002.

The one (1) month period for responding to the Office action expires on December 19, 2002.

The Examiner has required Applicant to elect a single species for prosecution on the merits. Applicant hereby elects to proceed with Species II (Figures 8A-10B). Claims 1, 2, 8-11 and 14-18 are readable thereon. Further, the Examiner has stated that claims 1, 2, 8 and 15 are generic.

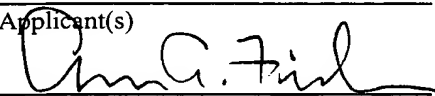
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

Aaron A. Fishman

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

December 19, 2002

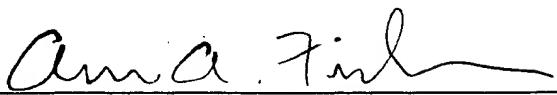
Date

  
Signature of Attorney

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33463.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 19, 2002